**Asking or Telling Mini-Lesson**

**Context**

* Kindergarten
* Understanding how to use a period or a question mark in a sentence.
* Students will be completing a worksheet with sentences, and they will need to figure out if a question mark or period is the proper form of punctuation at the end of the given sentence.
* This mini-lesson is in response to the majority of the students having difficulty understanding which proper punctuation to use at the end of a sentence. (Exclamation is not a problem)
* The students have been and will be completing many more pieces of writing and need to know how to properly end their sentences to make the writing make sense.

**Objective**

* Given a list of sentences without punctuation, students will be able to correctly place the proper punctuation at the end of the sentences with 90% accuracy.
* When listening to the lesson, students will be able to correctly answer aloud the proper ways to use the punctuation with 80% accuracy. (This is done with teacher guidance)

**CCSS**

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.K.8](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/W/K/8/)  
With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

**Materials**

* Big Piece of paper or white/chalk board
* Colored Markers
* A list (worksheet) of sentences without punctuation
* Writing utensils for the students

**Procedure**

1. Discuss with students how we as a whole class are having some difficulty with our ending punctuations.
2. Today, we are going to discuss the difference between an asking sentence and a telling sentence.
3. An asking sentence is when we want to use a question mark. This is because in our sentence we are asking a question, or asking someone to do something.
4. Some examples of questions are:

What are you doing?

What is your favorite color?

How many dogs do you have?

Do you like to eat pizza?

Are you going to go to the park?

1. Can someone give me an example of a question?
2. (take examples from a few students)
3. Great Job!
4. We can use some tools to help us search for sentences that ask a question.

(Write on board or Paper with different colored markers)

If the sentence starts with:

Why, When, Where, How, Was, Who, Dis, Is, Which, Were, What, Do, Does or Are; this means that the sentence is going to end with a question mark.

1. So if the sentence does NOT start with one of the question sentence starters it is most likely going to be a sentence that is telling something.
2. A telling sentence ends in a period and is stating something the writer would like to tell.
3. Some examples of telling sentences are:

We are going to the store.

I like cheese.

My favorite color is purple.

My cat’s name is Leslie.

I love when my students do their work.

You look very nice today.

1. Can I have some friends give me some examples of a telling sentence?

(Take a few telling sentences from students)

1. Awesome work!
2. Now, I have some examples of sentences and as a class we are going to quietly say out loud what we think the right answer is.
3. Sent. 1: What is our special today?

Sent. 2: Will you go to the movies with me?

Sent 3: Popcorn is my favorite food.

Sent 4: My best friend’s name is Billy.

Sent 5: Are there snacks in the snack bin today?

1. Great work! Now we are going to go back to our tables and complete a worksheet.
2. This worksheet (show worksheet) has 8 sentences. At the end of the sentence you are going to decide there should be a question mark or a period, whatever you think should be there. I am going to read aloud the questions, and I want you to do your best to figure out what is the right punctuation!
3. Read the questions aloud.

**Assessment**

Assessment 1 will be taken by teacher observation when students are sharing and answering the questions aloud.

Assessment 2 will be taken by assessment of the given worksheet to the student. This will then be put on the teacher’s grade file.

**Sources:**

List of asking words: [www.first-grade-fever.blogspot.com](http://www.first-grade-fever.blogspot.com)

Worksheet: [www.petersons-pad.blogspot.com](http://www.petersons-pad.blogspot.com)

